

**NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES**

Advisory Committee Minutes

Clarion Hotel
320 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Attending:

Advisory Committee Members:

Frank Edwards, Dr. Diana Antonacci, James R. Bowman, Anna R. Cunningham, Carla Cunningham, Dr. John Haggerty, Dr. Tyehimba Hunt-Harrison, Nancy E. Moore, Phillip A. Mooring, Beverly M. Morrow, Dr. Greg Olley, John Owen, Elizabeth Ramos, Don Trobaugh

Other Commission Members In Attendance:

Jennifer Brobst, Carol Vale

Excused Absences:

A. Joseph Kaiser, Kevin P. Oliver

Other Absences:

Dr. Ranota Hall, F. Michael Maybee, Dr. John S. Carbone

Division Staff:

Steven E. Hairston, W. Denise Baker, Marta T. Hester, Amanda Reeder, Andrea Borden

Others:

Tara Fields

Call to Order and Subcommittee Guidance:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Frank Edwards at approximately 1:40pm. Mr. Edwards welcomed the members of the Advisory Committee, requested a moment of reflection, and issued the ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder.

Upon motion, second, and unanimous vote, the Advisory Committee approved the minutes of the January 26, 2012, Advisory Committee Meeting.

Old Business

No issues were discussed.

New Business:

Current Topics:

- CABHA (Community Support)
 - Mr. Edwards stated that within the next two years CABHA will probably go away.
- Workforce Development Initiative
 - Mr. Edwards advised that workforce development is currently being addressed by several other groups.
- Veterans and MH/DD/SAS Issues (Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI))

- John Owen recommended that John Harris from the NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) provide another update on veterans and md/dd/sas issues to include TBI. Mr. Edwards agreed.

Recently Proposed Issues:

- **MCO Transformation/MCO Governance**
 - Mr. Edwards advised that the state legislature is addressing this issue through the LME Governance Subcommittee and that its final meeting will be in either May or June of 2012.
- **Guardianship**
 - Mr. Edwards stated that the way guardianship is done will change when the MCOs are fully operational.
- **Affordable Care Act**
- **Access to Services – The Latino Population:**
 - Mr. Edwards agreed that access to services within the Latino population is an on-going issue; however, the decision as to whether to study this topic is up to the Advisory Committee.

Suggestions from February 2012 Commission Meeting:

- Mr. Edwards presented guidance to the Advisory Committee on how he plans to move forward. The Advisory Committee was charged with addressing the following three (3) questions:
 - Who do they advise? The answers discussed included the DMH/DD/SAS, Division of Health Services Regulation, Division of Aging, Governor and Legislature.
 - What subject should be selected for study and recommendation?
 - What should the end product be? Specifically, should recommendations be submitted through a letter, visit or advisory capacity?

Recommendations on *Who* to advise are provided below:

- The Advisory Committee should advise itself by being proactive and aware of all the players including state, federal, and other agencies involved.
- The Advisory Committee should advise the NC Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (Commission) and its Rules Committee.
- The Advisory Committee advises the Commission only.
- The Advisory Committee should advise the state legislature.
- The duties of the Commission are outlined in NC General Statutes 122C and 143B-148.

Recommendations on *What* the topic of study should be are outlined below:

- Housing
- Concrete, measurable care and gaps in services
- Delivery of substance abuse services as this population often fails to receive services due to the nature of its disease; more guidance should be provided at local level
- Quality of care and workforce development
- Evidence Based Practices and Services
- NC Institute of Medicine study completed by Substance Abuse Task Force in 2009. While there was no funding to implement the recommendations in the past, the Advisory Committee should recommend that the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services follow the direction provided within the report.
- The leadership of the Full Commission, Rules and Advisory Committee should recommend the topic.
- Coordinate with the Rules Committee on long term projects.

- A mechanism should be in place to respond to current issues as they occur to ensure a speedy response.

Recommendation on *How* to present the end product included:

- Dr. Olley, the Chairperson of the NC Commission for MH/DD/SAS, can write a letter on the Commission's behalf including the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

Establishing Priorities

Following the discussion, Mr. Edwards stated that he will engage in discussions with Dr. Olley and Jennifer Brobst, Rules Committee Chairperson, and they will collectively select the topic for the group. The topic will be sent via email to the committee members during the interim as the Advisory Committee will not meet again for another six (6) months due to the rulemaking training scheduled for the July 26, 2012 meeting. Mr. Edwards also directed the members to divide up into three (3) groups and notify him of their selection. The three choices are discussed at length in the previous paragraphs: Who; What; and How.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.